# Sample Pearson Set Assignment Brief

## Single Part Assessment

## Module A: Music Skills Development (A1, A2, A3)

For use with:

# Pearson International BTEC Level 3 Qualifications in Music

### Subsidiary Diploma /Foundation Diploma/Diploma/ Extended Diploma

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|---|---|
| **Advised supervised hours** | 25 hours |

**For completion by the centre**

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| **Qualification (select as appropriate)** | Subsidiary Diploma/Foundation Diploma/Diploma/ Extended Diploma |
| **Assessment date** | |



Pearson BTEC

## Instructions to teachers/tutors and/or invigilators

The Pearson Set Assignment should be undertaken in conditions that assure the authenticity of outcome. This may require supervision.

We advise that the Pearson Set Assignment be completed in sessions that come to a total of 25 hours. The Pearson Set Assignment should not be shared with learners prior to the start of the assessment period. Teachers/tutors are responsible for security of the Pearson Set Assignment and materials.

### Conditions of assessment

We advise that the Set Assignment be taken in more than one supervised session.

The Set Assignment must not be shared with learners before the session arranged by the centre. Teachers/tutors and invigilators should note that they are responsible for maintaining security and for reporting issues to Pearson.

### Outcomes for Submission

Learners must complete this set assignment on a computer using an optional range of digital ways to showcase their roles as suggested in each activity. The digital showcase should include clear images of the appropriate production arts documentation for each role undertaken. Learners must save their work regularly and ensure that all materials can be identified as their work.

Learners must submit their own, independent work as detailed in the set assignment.

Each learner must complete an authentication sheet.

## Instructions to learners

You will be asked to carry out specific activities using the information provided. You will be given a specific time period to complete the assignment.

Read the Set Assignment Information carefully, then complete the activities in the Set Assignment.

You must complete an authentication sheet and submit this along with your work.

## Set Assignment information

A music festival called *Fifty-20* will take place next summer and the organisers are inviting local performers and music creators to take part in the event. The festival will run over a weekend in a large outdoor venue and is aimed at a family audience.

The festival aims to celebrate popular music from the last 70-years and the organisers are keen to showcase a range of genres from 1950 to present day.

There will be three main performance spaces at the festival:

1. The Main Stage – This space will feature various bands throughout the weekend who will each perform a 20-30 minute set of cover versions. These sets will feature a diverse range of musical styles, reflective of the popular music of the last 70 years.

2. The Dance Tent – This space will feature various DJs playing recordings of original musical creations that have been inspired by musical genres, pieces of music and artists from the past 70 years. There will be a mixture of material including original pieces, remixes and arrangements of existing pieces.

3. The Variety Arena – This space will feature performances of original material or creatively reworked existing pieces of music. Each artist or group will perform two pieces of music based on two different musical styles from the last 70 years.

For you to be considered for taking part in the festival, you must prepare audition and application material for the specific performance space you would like to contribute to. Details of the requirements are specified below.

You should choose **one** of the following set assignments.

**Set Assignment 1**
**Assessment Unit A1 - Performing as an ensemble**

You must complete ALL activities.

| **ACTIVITY 1 – Rehearse** (suggested time 24 hours) |
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| To be considered for a set on the Main Stage you should form a musical ensemble and select, rehearse and develop at least four pieces of music, each one coming from a different decade between 1950-2019. In rehearsals it is vital that you are engaged, disciplined and work collaboratively to ensure productivity. You must contribute individual ideas and suggest improvements to ensure that the ensemble is successful and constructive.<br><br>You must send the following to the festival organisers so they can assess your attitude and approach in rehearsal:<br>• Video footage of three milestone rehearsals from the early, middle and final stages of the process.<br>• Three individual milestone reflective reviews/debriefs (written document or an audio commentary) including developmental targets for the next stage of the rehearsal process. These should be completed in relation to your three milestone videos. |
| This activity covers the following criteria – A1.P1, A1.M1, A1.D1, A1.P2, A1.M2, A1.D2 |

| **ACTIVITY 2 – Perform** (suggested time up to 1 hour) |
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| You should perform your pieces ensuring that you demonstrate technical proficiency, stylistic awareness and musical expression and must send a video recording of this performance to the festival organisers so they can judge your suitability for a set on The Main Stage. |
| This activity covers the following criteria – A1.P3, A1.M3, A1.D3 |

**Set Assignment 2**
**Assessment Unit A2 – Creating Musical Material**

You must complete ALL activities.

| **ACTIVITY 1 – Create** (suggested time 20 hours) |
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| Using a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW), you must create a piece of music lasting 3-5 minutes and send this to the festival organisers in an appropriate audio format. The track you create could be an original piece, a remix or an arrangement of an existing piece. The final piece should clearly demonstrate the influence of at least two musical genres, artists or pieces of music from the last 70 years. It is vital that you apply sequencing skills and use musical elements creatively in order to meet the given brief. |
| This activity covers the following criteria –A2.P2, A2.M2, A2.D2, A2.P3, A2.M3, A2.D3 |

| **ACTIVITY 2 – Reflect** (suggested time 5-hours) |
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| For the festival organisers to gain insight into your creative process, you must also send them a project log which discusses your application of creative processes and techniques and shows how you developed your final piece of music from initial ideas to final outcome. You should discuss the musical and technical DAW techniques you have used that display creativity and musicality, giving a rationale for why you used them.<br><br>This log can be submitted as a written commentary, screen recording with audio commentary, video presentation, annotated screenshots or a combination of these. |
| This activity covers the following criteria – A2.P1, A2.M1, A2.D1 |

**Set Assignment 3**
**Assessment Unit A3 – Using Musical Styles**

You must complete ALL activities.

| **ACTIVITY 1 – Styles** (suggested time 20 hours) |
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| To be considered for inclusion on The Variety Arena, you should demonstrate your practical understanding of the stylistic features of two specific musical styles from 1950-2019 by presenting a video recording of a performance of two separate pieces of music, each based on a distinct and contrasting musical genre. You could submit two stylistically reworked existing pieces of music, two original compositions or one of each. Each piece should last 3-5 minutes.<br><br>You must ensure that you stylistically deploy and manipulate musical elements such as melody, rhythm, harmony, texture, structure and instrumental/vocal techniques as appropriate to your chosen two genres. You can work individually or work and perform with other musicians but the ideas for the stylistic interpretations you present must be your own. |
| This activity covers the following criteria –A3.P1, A3.M1, A3.D1, A3.P2, A3.M2, A3.D2 |

| **ACTIVITY 2 – Analyse** (suggested time 5 hours) |
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| So that the festival organisers can be sure that you understand the stylistic features of the music you have submitted, you must produce two demonstrations to camera (one for each piece of music), where you will analyse and demonstrate how you have used stylistic conventions and musical elements in your pieces. You should discuss your pieces in detail referring to actual musical examples within the pieces of how you have used melody, rhythm, harmony, texture, structure and instrumental/vocal techniques in each piece. |
| This activity covers the following criteria – A3.P3, A3.M3, A3.D3 |